

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TUNIS 03307 080855Z

65

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

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PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /103 W

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R 071539Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2695

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USUN NEW YORK 0760

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 3307

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA KS KN TS

SUBJECT MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: POSSIBLE DEBATE ON THE
KOREAN ITEM IN THE 31ST UNGA

REF: STATE 98185

1. REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL CORE GROUP COUNTRIES WITH
DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION TUNISIA MET MAY 6 AT BELGIAN
EMBASSY (USUN 1863) TO DISCUSS APPROACH TO GOT ON KOREAN
QUESTION. BELGIUM, FRG, ROK, NETHERLANDS, JAPAN AND
CANADA REPRESENTED BY AMBASSADOR, UK BY NUMBER TWO AND
US BY CHARGE. MEETING WAS LENGTHY AND AT FIRST SOMEWHAT
CONFUSED, SINCE ALL EIGHT REPRESENTATIVES HAD INSTRUCTIONS
FROM THEIR GOVERNMENTS CONTAINING VARYING DESCRIPTIONS
OF CORE GROUP DISCUSSION DESCRIBED PARA 7 REFTTEL.

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 03307 080855Z

HOWEVER, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT OP APPROACH

MOST LIKELY TO YIELD RESULTS WITH TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT. IT WAS CONSENSUS THAT BELGIAN AMBASSADOR SHOULD AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER CHATTI AND MAKE PRESENTATION BASED ON TALKING POINTS CONTAINED PARA 4 REFTEL AND LEAVE "BOUT DE PAPIER" SUMMARIZING PRESENTATION. THERE WAS UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT THAT UNLESS SOME WRITTEN NOTES PROVIDED CORE GROUP VIEWS WOULD NOT RPT NOT DISSEMINATE WITHIN GOT AS FULLY AS DESIRABLE. FOLLOWING BELGIAN APPROACH, AMBASSADORS OF CERTAIN OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD DISCUSS ISSUE WITH GOT AS APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITIES AROSE AND FROM THEIR PARTICULAR POINTS OF VIEW, BUT IT AGREED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE DESIRABLE FOR ALL TO DO SO. MOST MEMBERS OF GROUP FELT THAT AS FAR AS TUNISIA IS CONCERNED IT IMPORTANT THAT ROK, U.S. AND JAPAN DO SO. IN FACT, KOREAN AMBASSADOR, WHO IS SHORTLY TO DEPART, HAS ALREADY REVIEWED KOREAN QUESTION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER, AND JAPANESE AMBASSADOR HAD DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT DURING MEETING WITH CHATTI ON APRIL 1. AT THAT MEETING, SAID JAPANESE AMBASSADOR, CHATTI HAD GIVEN ASSURANCE THAT IF SITUATION AROSE SIMILAR TO THAT IN UNGA, UNGA, GOT HAD NO INTENTION OF ALTERING ITS POSITION, I.E. IT WOULD ABSTAIN ON BOTH FRIENDLY AND HOSTILE RESOLUTIONS.

2. KOREAN AMBASSADOR MADE POINT THAT ALTHOUGH GOT WOULD GO NO FURTHER THAN ABSTENTION ON A FRIENDLY RESOLUTION THIS DID NOT MEAN THAT TUNISIA COULD NOT BE HELPFUL AT COLOMBO IN LOBBYING TO PREVENT ADOPTION OF NON-ALIGNED POSITION THAT WOULD LEAD TO UNDESIRABLE SITUATION IN UNGA. OUR EFFORTS, HE SAID, SHOULD BE AIMED AT GETTING GOT TO USE ITS INFLUENCE FOR MODERATION RATHER THAN IN EXERTING PRESSURE ON GOT TO ALTER ITS VOTING PATTERN. HE SAID THAT SITUATION IN COLOMBO MIGHT NOT BE AS BLEAK AS SOME IMAGINED SINCE SRI LANKA REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE IN CHAIR AND ENTIRE NORTH KOREAN EMBASSY EXPELLED FROM SRI LANKA TWO YEARS AGO FOR SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. ON OTHER HAND, LITTLE HOPE THAT GOT WOULD TRY TO INFLUENCE NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMIEEEE MEETING IN ALGIERS, IN VIEW OF SENSITIVE BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ALGERIA, (A MEETING WHICH TUNISIA WOULD NOT IN ANY CASE BE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 TUNIS 03307 080855Z

ATTENDING).

3. COMMENT: BELGIAN AMBASSADOR SHOULD MAKE EXCELLENT REPRESENTATIVE FOR INITIAL APPROACH. HE IS SENSITIVE TO VIEWS OF ALL INVOLVED AND SEEMS TO HAVE A GOOD FEEL FOR HOW TO PRESENT CASE WITHOUT OVER-EMPHASIZING JOINT APPROACH, WHICH OBVIOUSLY MADE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR NERVOUS, YET MAKING CLEAR THE SUBSTANTIAL BODY OF OPINION BEHIND

HIS DEMARCHE. BELIEVE GOT WILL EXPECT TO HEAR FROM US
ON THIS ISSUE, AND THAT AMBASSADOR WILL HAVE NATURAL
OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS KOREA DURING INITIAL MEETINGS
WITH FOREIGN MINISTER.
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